(c) whether Government are working out programmes that will offer a new deal for those;

(d) if so, whether Government are aware that Inspector Raj is plaguing tiny and small units;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken in the direction to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (f) The Government propose to enact a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of the workers in the unorganised sector.

The Government is aware of the burden of Inspections on tiny and small units to streamline and simplify inspections under various laws and to promote self regulation and self certification by small and medium enterprises, the Government has introduced the Small and Medium Enterprises Development (SMED) Bill, 2005 in the Lok Sabha.

Jobless graduates

3269. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of reports in print media on number of jobless graduates;

(b) whether it is a fact that number of unemployed is up three-fold in ten years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide employment to graduates within a reasonable time of two years; and

(e) if Government are not in a position to provide employment to graduates, it would grant "unemployment allowance" to them till they get a reasonable job?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Reports do appear from time to time in various media on employment and unemployment situation in the country. Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation.

Last such survey for which the results are available pertains to the year 1999-2000. As per these surveys unemployed persons in the country on usual status basis had gone up from around 7.5 million in 1993-1994 to 9.0 million in 1999-2000.

(c) Labour force growth and economy not growing at the desired rate are some of the reasons for the present unemployment situation.

(d) Government have fixed a target of creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan. These will benefit the unemployed graduates also.

(e) At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Labour and Employment to grant unemployment allowance to the unemployed graduates.

Full-time and part-time employees working in employment exchanges

†3270. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 350 given in Rajya Sabha on 18th August, 2005 and state:

(a) the State-wise number of employment exchanges in the country alongwith the number of full time as well as part time employees working in each of these; and

(b) the State-wise and year-wise amount spent on these employment exchanges from the year 2000 till date?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) State-wise number of employment exchanges functioning in the country as on 31-12-2004 was as given in the Statement (*See* below). Employment exchanges function under the administration and financial control of the respective State/Union territory Governments. Information on full Time/part-time employees working in these exchanges is not maintained.

(b) As per the information available, the expenditure incurred on an average per employment exchange during 2001-02, was around Rs. 14.3 Lakh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.